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| EXAMINER |
|---|
| NGUYEN, VAN H |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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| 2194 | |

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

> A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM
> THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
>   after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
> - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
> - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
> - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
> - Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
>   earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *26 February 2002*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.    2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-27* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All  b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *9/19/02*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

# DETAILED ACTION

1.      Claims 1-27 are presented for examination.

## *Information Disclosure Statement*

2.      The Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement, filed September 19, 2002, has been received, entered into the record, and considered. See attached form PTO 1449.

## *Claim Objections*

3.      Claims 1, 14, 15, 25, and 27 are objected to because of the following informalities:  the **abbreviations** used in these claims should be defined.

Appropriate correction is required.

## *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101*

4.      35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

> Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

5.      The language of claims 15-24 and 27 raises a question as to whether the claim is directed merely to an abstract idea that is not tied to a technological art, environment or machine which

would result in a practical application producing a useful, concrete, and tangible result to form

the basis of statutory subject matter under 35 U.S.C. 101.

6.      Claims 15-24 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention,

appearing to be comprised of <u>software alone</u> without claiming associated <u>computer hardware</u>

required for execution, is not supported by either a specific and substantial asserted utility (i.e.,

transformation of data) or a well established utility (i.e., a practical application).

7.      Claim 27 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed

to non-statutory subject matter.  Claim 27 appears to be a data structure per se that is

nonfunctional.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

8.      The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9.      Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lewis (US

6,167,511).

10.     As to claim 1, Lewis teaches the invention as claimed including a system that facilitates

AML access to an SMBus (see the abstract), comprising:

an AML event handler (the event handler; col.7, lines 43); and,

a driver (the ACPI driver; col.7, line 36-43) that identifies an SMBus event (events; col.7, line 36-43) and dispatches the SMBus event to the AML handler (col.7, line 36-43).

11.     As to claim 2, Lewis teaches the driver receives a status and a data associated with the SMBus event from the SMBus (see fig.2).

12.     As to claim 3, Lewis teaches the driver employs a_Qxx control method to dispatch the SMBus event to the AML event handler (col.1, lines 51-55).

13.     As to claim 4, Lewis teaches at least one AML event handler entry point is accessed by the_Qxx control method (col.7, lines 5-15).

14.     As to claim 5, Lewis teaches the AML event handler employs a three parameter buffer access read method to read data from an operation region associated with the SMBus, where a first parameter of the three parameter buffer access read method provides an initial data to a computer component providing access to the operation region associated with the SMBus (col.8, lines 23-60).

15     As to claim 6, Lewis teaches a second parameter of the three parameter buffer access read method is a reference to the operation region associated with the SMBus from which the data will be read (130; fig.5).

16.     As to claim 7, Lewis teaches a third parameter of the three parameter buffer access read method holds data read from the operation region identified by the second parameter (150; fig.5).

17.     As to claim 8, Lewis teaches a third parameter of the three parameter buffer access read method is a reference to a location to store the data read from the operation region identified by the second parameter (col.8, lines 23-60).

18.     As to claim 9, Lewis teaches the AML event handler employs a three parameter buffer

access write method to write data to an operation region associated with the SMBus (col.10, lines

4-32).

19.     As to claim 10, Lewis teaches a first parameter of the three parameter buffer access write

method is the data to be written to the operation region associated with the SMBus (col.8, line

66-col.9, line 35).

20.     As to claim 11, Lewis teaches a first parameter of the three parameter buffer access write

method is a reference to the data to be written to the operation region associated with the SMBus

(col.10, lines 22-32).

21.     As to claim 12, Lewis teaches a second parameter of the three parameter buffer access

write method is a reference to the operation region associated with the SMBus to which the data

will be written (col.10, lines 22-32).

22.     As to claim 13, Lewis teaches a third parameter of the three parameter buffer access write

method is a status code returned by a computer component providing access to the operation

region associated with the SMBus (col.9, lines 33-35).

23.     As to claim 14, note the rejection of claim 1 above. Claim 14 is the same as claim 1,

except claim 14 is a computer readable medium claim and claim 1 is a system claim.

24.     As to claim 15, note the rejection of claim 1 above. Claim 15 is the same as claim 1,

except claim 15 is a method claim and claim 1 is a system claim.

25.     As to claim 16, Lewis teaches the SMBus event notification is identified by examining at

least one of a data and a status associated with the SMBus event notification (col.7, lines32-42).

26.     As to claim 17, Lewis teaches indexing to a_Qxx control method via a registered AML

event handler (col.7, lines 44-58).

27.     As to claim 18, Lewis teaches reading an operation region associated with the SMBus

that generated the SMBus notification (col.8, lines 23-33).

28.     As to claim 19, Lewis teaches the operation region is accessed by a three parameter read,

where a first parameter holds an initial data, a second parameter holds a reference to the

operation region to be accessed and a third parameter holds data read from the operation region

(col.8, lines 23-60).

29.     As to claim 20, Lewis teaches the operation region is accessed by a three parameter read,

where a first parameter holds an initial data, a second parameter holds a reference to the

operation region to be accessed and a third parameter holds a reference to data read from the

operation region (col.8, lines 23-60).

30.     As to claim 21, Lewis teaches writing an operation region associated with the SMBus

that generated the SMBus notification (col.10, lines 22-32).

31.     As to claim 22, Lewis teaches the operation region is written by a three parameter write,

where a first parameter holds a data to be written to the operation region, a second parameter

holds a reference to the operation region and a third parameter holds a returned status call (col.6,

lines 15-24).

32.     As to claim 23, Lewis teaches the operation region is written by a three parameter write,

where a first parameter holds a reference to a data to be written to the operation region, a second

parameter holds a reference to the operation region and a third parameter holds a returned status

call (col.6, lines 15-24).

33.     As to claim 24, Lewis teaches a computer readable medium storing computer instructions

(col.6, lines 35-45).

34.    As to claim 25, Lewis teaches the invention as claim including a system for SMBus event handling (see the abstract), comprising:

   means for receiving an SMBus notification (see fig.2);

   means for locating an AML code event handler associated with the SMBus notification (col.5, lines 40-56); and

   means for invoking the AML code event handler associated with the SMBus notification (col.7, lines 33-43).

35.    As to claim 26, Lewis teaches means for the AML code event handler to access a data object employed to communicate with an SMBus (col.6, lines 35-45).

36.    As to claim 27, refer to claim 1 above for rejection.

## *Conclusion*

37.    The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

   Oshins et al. (US 6907474) teaches "System and method for adding hardware registers to a power management and configuration system."

   Cooper (US 6792491) teaches "Invoking ACPI source language code from interrupt handler."

   Stufflebeam (US 6460106) teaches "Bus bridge for hot docking in a portable computer system."

Stanley (US 6219742) teaches "Method and apparatus for artificially generating general purpose events in an ACPI environment."

38.     Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

39.     Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday.

40.     If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756.

41.     The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

42.     Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**
**Commissioner for patents**
**P O Box 1450**
**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

vhn

ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
PRIMARY EXAMINER